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*Vital statistics of Ponce, January, 1903.*

Diseases of—		Grippe .....	2
Digestive system .....	44	Tetanus traumatic .....	1
Respiratory system .....	10	Hepatitis .....	3
Circulatory system .....	7	Syphilis .....	2
Nervous system .....	5	Peritonitis .....	1
Anemia, malnutrition, inanition ..	5	Metro-peritonitis .....	1
Nephritis .....	3		
Tuberculosis .....	4	Total .....	103
Malaria .....	5	January, 1902:	
Cancer .....	2	Births .....	171
Rhachitis .....	3	Deaths .....	84
Uremia .....	2	January, 1903:	
Old age .....	2	Births .....	125
Metritis .....	1	Deaths .....	103

SPAIN.

*Suspect plague and yellow fever on Italian bark Iris at Palma, Majorca.*

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
*February 27, 1903.*

SIR: Referring to your letter of the 20th instant, in regard to the reported outbreak of plague among the crew of the Italian bark *Iris* at Palma, Majorca, I now have the honor to inform you that the Department is in receipt of a telegram dated the 22d instant from the consul-general of the United States at Barcelona, Spain, in which he states: "No plague aboard *Iris*. Malarial fever. Vessel proceed Marseilles without communicating Majorca." A subsequent telegram from the consul-general dated February 23, 1903, reads: "Later advices state yellow fever. Communication between vessel and Majorca disallowed. *Iris* probably now Marseilles."

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

JOHN HAY,  
*Secretary of State.*

The SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

TURKEY.

*Cholera epidemic in Palestine reported extinct.*

Consul Merrill reports from Jerusalem, January 10, as follows: In my No. 60, October 18, 1902, I referred to the appearance in this consular district of Asiatic cholera. Gaza, Lydda, and Jaffa suffered most from this disease, but it appeared also in many other towns with a few, sometimes a considerable number, of fatal cases in each. I am glad to report that there has been no case in Jerusalem or in this immediate vicinity. The epidemic seems now to have died out. We had quarantine on four sides of us, and I am happy to state that on the 9th of this month the last was removed. Negligence at the border station between Egypt and Palestine was the occasion of the introduction of cholera into this country. \* \* \*

Only one European died during the past three months of this disease, and that one did not belong in this district.

I speak in this report of this district only; but I hear that in Damascus there are still cases. With cholera in Egypt and cholera in